

RADIO STAMPS
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Prepared for the
DX Partyline Program
of Radio Station HCJB, Quito, Ecuador

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Hello again, and welcome back to another edition of Radio Stamps. A special welcome if you're listening for the first time.

Russia: Radio Moscow

This is program 19 and the subject today, on this first **Radio Stamps** program of the new year, is radio stations on stamps. Today we're going to Russia in the Soviet Union, or what used to be the Soviet Union. The creation of a Soviet Commonwealth of Independent States, and the Russian Federation, has been at the top of the news stories all week. If you're like me, and many other shortwave listeners around the world, you probably listen for news of these remarkable events on Radio Moscow. My collecting tips today are for a postage stamp and a unique postal cover for Radio Moscow.

Radio broadcasting in the Soviet Union started in October 1922 from a radio station in the city of Moscow. The foreign service of Radio Moscow began in 1929. In 1979 a commemorative postage stamp was issued for the 50th anniversary of this Russian station. Now would certainly be a good time to add this historical Radio Moscow stamp to your collection.

The symmetrical design of this commemorative stamp features a radio tower, and radiating radio waves in red and blue. It is the only postage stamp in the world, that I know of, that includes a station identification of a radio station. The words "This is Radio Moscow" are spelled out in eight different languages across the radio waves. At the top of the stamp, in English, below the Russian lettering, are the words "Radio Moscow". The Scott catalogue number for this issue, on November 28, 1979, is 4791.

A special airmail envelope, or postal cover, was also produced in 1979 for the 50th anniversary of Radio Moscow in Russia. Although the preprinted postage on the cover is not radio related, the coloured cachet on the left side is a radio tower complete with radio waves. Over the blue radio waves, in white, the word "peace" is spelled in five different languages. The Russian wording of the cachet proclaims the 50th anniversary of Radio Moscow.

The 50th anniversary postage stamp has also been available on this unique postal cover as a combination, including a special first-

day-of-issue postal cancellation. The design of the cancellation is the same radio tower that's featured on the postage stamp.

Later, on another **Radio Stamps** program, I'll have more collecting tips for you on Radio Moscow in Russia. I hope you'll be listening on the first Saturday of each month, here on the "DX Partyline" program of HCJB. I hope too that you'll write to me during the year with your comments and your contributions to the program. I'll give you my mailing address at the end of this feature.

This year, in 1992, the **Radio Stamps** program is being sponsored by the North American Shortwave Association. The Association is underwriting the production and mailing costs of this volunteer program. A special thanks to Bob Brown, Executive Director, for the club's generous support of the **Radio Stamps** program. The North American Shortwave Association has membership across Canada and the United States, and around the world. The club produces NASWA, that's spelled N-A-S-W-A, the monthly journal of the Association. A sample copy is available for only \$2. If you'd like to write to the club, here's the mailing address. North American Shortwave Association, 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, spelled L-e-v-i-t-t-o-w-n, in Pennsylvania, spelled P-e-n-n-s-y-l-v-a-n-i-a. The zip code in the United States is 19057. The address again is North American Shortwave Association, 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, Pennsylvania, 19057, U.S.A.

I'm pleased as well to announce that **Radio Stamps** will also be a quarterly feature this year in the journal of the North American Shortwave Association, starting in February. I'll have news and illustrations for you, four times this year, of postage stamps and other philatelic material on the topic of radio. I think its going to be a lot of fun to see **Radio Stamps** back in print again. I hope you'll write to me with your comments.

This brings me to the end of another **Radio Stamps** program. Best wishes to each and every one for the new year. As promised, here's my mailing address. Neil Carleton, that's spelled N-e-i-l C-a-r-l-e-t-o-n, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, spelled A-l-m-o-n-t-e, Ontario, spelled O-n-t-a-r-i-o. The postal code here in Canada is K0A 1A0. The address again is Neil Carleton, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, Ontario, K0A 1A0, Canada.

Until the next time, best wishes for good listening and collecting.